Claims

1. A clamp comprising:

a first jaw and a second jaw having opposing contact surfaces which are relatively substantially linearly displaceable between a position of minimum separation and a position of maximum separation, wherein in use the opposing contact surfaces contact the lower surface and upper surface respectively of a structural element, wherein the first jaw incorporates a first aperture remote from the contact surface and adapted to receive a suspension element or fastener;

one or more means for guiding the first jaw and the second jaw during relative substantially linear displacement such as to substantially prevent relative non-linear displacement of the opposing contact surfaces; and

means for delimiting the substantially linear displacement of the opposing contact surfaces of the first jaw and second jaw to the position of maximum separation.

2. A clamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first jaw comprises a first reentrant body and the second jaw comprises a second reentrant body.

3. A clamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first reentrant body is nested at least partially within the second reentrant body.

4. A clamp as claimed in claim 2 or claim 3, wherein the first reentrant body is symmetrically nested at least partially within the second reentrant body.

5. A clamp as claimed in claim 3 or claim 4, wherein the second reentrant body is deeper than the first reentrant body.

6. A clamp as claimed in any of claims 3 to 5, wherein the first reentrant body is composed of a material which is thinner than the material of which the second reentrant body is composed.

7. A clamp as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the first reentrant body is asymmetrically nested at least partially within the second reentrant body.

8. A clamp as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein each reentrant body has a base between substantially parallel opposed side walls, a leading edge and a trailing edge.

9. A clamp as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the contact surface of the or each reentrant body has an extended inner edge which in use abuts a surface of the structural element.

10. A clamp as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the one or more of the means for guiding the first jaw and the second jaw during relative substantially linear displacement comprises:

male and female portions on the first jaw and second jaw slidably engageable in a direction parallel to the direction of linear displacement.

11. A clamp as claimed in claim 10, wherein the male and female portions comprise:

one or more elongate discontinuities extending parallel to the direction of linear displacement in the side of the second jaw slidably engageable with one or more elongate discontinuities extending parallel to the direction of linear displacement in the side of the first jaw.

12. A clamp as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the clamp further comprises:

biassing means for biassing the first jaw and second jaw towards the position of minimum separation.

13. A clamp as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the first jaw incorporates a first aperture rearwardly of the contact surface.

14. A clamp as claimed in claim 13, wherein the second jaw incorporates a second aperture substantially collinear with the first aperture, and wherein the first and second aperture are adapted to receive the suspension element or fastener.